

Message Text

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21

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-11 JUSE-00

NSAE-00 SNM-02 TRSE-00 USIA-06 NSC-05 OES-03 OMB-01

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 L-03 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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R 161830Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2425

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY LIMA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 0631

GUATEMALA FOR ROGERS

LIMA FOR VANCE

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, MX

SUBJECT: DELIVERY OF ECHEVERRIA LETTER TO PRESIDENT FORD
ON NARCOTICS

REF: A. MEXICO 608, B. MEXICO 542, C. MEXICO 629

1. LAST NIGHT UNDERSECRETARY OF THE PRESIDENCY, JUAN JOSE BREMER (WHO FOR PAST FOUR YEARS HAS BEEN PERSONAL SECRETARY TO ECHEVERRIA AND IS VERY CLOSE TO HIM) ASKED TO COME SEE ME AT HOME. I WAS VERY FEARFUL THAT VISIT MIGHT BE MOTIVATED BY LEAKS PRESUMABLY FROM SENATOR PERCY'S OFFICE RE DEA REPORT ON ITS PARTICIPATION HERE IN NARCOTICS PROGRAM (MEXICO 608) AND ON VANCE/OJEDA AGREEMENT (MEXICO 608). I WANT TO STRESS HOW SERIOUSLY WE VIEW THIS--HOW NEAR THIS SORT OF THING COMES TO WRECKING OUR COLLABORATION ON NARCOTICS OR TO POLITICALLY DESTROYING OJEDA PAULLADA HIMSELF. FORTUNATELY, THE PURPOSE OF BREMER'S VISIT WAS TO DELIVER THE PROMISED
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LETTER FROM PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA TO PRESIDENT FORD (REF.B)

WITH A REQUEST THAT I SEE TO IT THAT IT REACHES PRESIDENT FORD AT EARLIEST MOMENT. THE LETTER, AN OPEN COPY OF WHICH HE GAVE ME, RECOUNTS THE CONVERSATIONS WHICH TOOK PLACE DURING THE VISIT OF CONGRESSMEN WOLFF AND GILMAN. DESCRIBES THE EXPANDED COMMITTEE ON NARCOTICS SET UP BY ECHEVERRIA AND INVITES U.S. TO SET UP A SIMILAR PARALLEL COMMITTEE. IT FORESEES THAT EACH OF THESE COMMITTEES "COULD STUDY THE PROBLEMS AND RECOMMEND ACTIONS WHICH COULD BE DISCUSSED IN MEETINGS BETWEEN BOTH COMMITTEES WHICH SHOULD ESTABLISH A MECHANISM WHICH WOULD ASSURE THE EFFICACY AND ACCURACY OF THEIR WORK PROBABLY THROUGH EXECUTIVE COMMISSIONS. THE FREQUENCY OF THEIR MEETINGS WOULD BE SET ACCORDING TO THE NATURE OF THEIR WORK".

2. I AM SENDING THE ENTIRE TEXT OF THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER IN A SEPARATE TELEGRAM AND AS I AM TRAVELLING TO WASHINGTON TOMORROW WILL BRING UP THE ORIGINAL FOR DELIVERY TO THE DEPARTMENT ON ARRIVAL. DEPARTMENT WILL NOTE THAT THE PRESIDENT SPEAKS IN HIS LETTER OF THE LINK AND INTERACTION THAT EXISTS BETWEEN SUPPLY AND DEMAND IN THE NATURE OF NARCOTICS AND I SHOULD MENTION THAT TODAY'S EDITORIAL AND ACCOMPANYING CARTOON, IN EXCELSIOR IS ALSO DEVOTED TO THIS SUBJECT WITH THE MESSAGE THAT THE PROBLEM SHOULD BE ATTACKED NOT ONLY HERE IN MEXICO BUT ALSO EQUALLY VIGOROUSLY IN THE U.S. AND SPECIFICALLY THROUGH ACTION AGAINST TRAFFICKERS IN THE U.S. "WHERE ARE TO BE FOUND THE FINANCERS AND THE CONSUMERS OF THE DRUGS"(EDITORIAL GIST BEING REPORTED SEPTEL).
JOVA

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